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Course For School Teachers Organized By Music Division

Many teachers in elementary schools have problems in teaching songs and rhythmic activities. Few, through no fault of their own, have had musical training. In an attempt to satisfy the need to provide children with musical experience in song and dance, such teachers have to bring upon themselves the agonizing experience of attempting to use a piano without sufficient prior training. Nothing can be more demoralizing than having to undergo this ordeal. Most children want to sing and look to their teachers for instruction and leadership. The majority of teachers, though not trained in music, recognize its worth as a part of general educational training and attempt to include singing in their curriculum. Notwithstanding the apparent impossibility of teaching music without sufficient training, it is continually surprising to find how many teachers take their lives in their hands and try their best. It is still more surprising when one hears how well some do.

In an attempt to help teachers provide themselves with a better background, the Music Division will organize an in-service workshop for Division I and II teachers in Lethbridge on November 23 and 24. A maximum of 24 teachers will be accepted. Through the co-operation of the Lethbridge School Board and T. Eaton Co. Ltd. twelve pianos for the course use have been borrowed.

Dr. F. E. Churchley will be consultant in charge. Dr. Churchley, a graduate of Columbia and Toronto Universities, is associate professor of music and education in the University of Alberta, Calgary. He also studied with the renowned teacher of composition, Mme.

Nadia Boulanger and was an associate of Dr. Robert Pace, the well known author of many publications on piano teaching.

In his own words, Dr. Churchley describes the course:

"This is a course designed to help the classroom teacher with little or no previous piano training to use the keyboard as an effective audio-visual-tactile aid in the general music period. Sessions will include practical experiences in developing such skills as creative activities at the keyboard; providing your own accompaniments to folk songs and other classroom pieces; teaching the fundamentals of music via the keyboard; and providing music for rhythmic activities. Group techniques will be used utilizing twelve pianos. Registration must therefore be limited to twenty-four teachers."

Full co-operation has been received from the Lethbridge Public and Separate School Boards for the use of facilities and the assistance of personnel.

Prominent Referees Attend At Fairview

Two well known Alberta hockey referees will be in attendance at a Hockey Referees' Clinic slated for Fairview November 17 and 18. "Curly" Brault and "Dutchy" Van Deelan, both known in several Alberta and Western Canadian Hockey leagues will outline the finer points of refereeing at the school sponsored by the Recreation and Cultural Development Branch. Persons interested in attending should contact B. Roe, Secretary, Fairview Recreation Board.

ALBERTA TOWNS WILL HOST DRAMA WORKSHOPS

Regional Drama Workshops will be held this winter in Alberta towns including Lethbridge, Delia, Grande Prairie, Cold Lake and either Hinton or Jasper.

Two are slated for November. The first is scheduled for the weekend of November 23, in Lethbridge, to be held at the Civic Centre with Gordon Peacock of the University of Alberta; Gerard Baril, make-up specialist, and Jack McCreath, Drama Supervisor, present as instructors.

Basic acting and make-up courses will be given.

The Delia Workshop, to be held the following weekend, November 30, will cover the Drumheller area, and will be held in the high school at Delia.

Speech and stagecraft will be the chief courses given, and speech specialist Freda DeBranscoville and Frank Bueckert of the University of Alberta will head the staff.

Registration deadlines are November 15 and 23 respectively. Application forms may be received from the Drama Supervisor's Office, Drama Division, Room 424, Legislative Building, Edmonton, Alberta.

NOTICE

A limited number of mimeographed "how to do it" Yuletide craft leaflets ideal for clubs, groups or individuals are available from the Recreation and Cultural Development Branch. Interested persons should address all enquiries to Community Program Supervisor, Recreation and Cultural Development Branch, Room 424, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton.

Plebiscites Prove Public Libraries Grow Popular

The results of local plebiscites in October show that public library services continue to receive popular support in various centres in the Province. Three by-laws were submitted, in Medicine Hat, Montgomery and Vulcan—in each case sufficient favourable votes were cast to get the several projects started.

Medicine Hat Public Library has been housed in an old bank building since 1925, but many changes have taken place during the past 37 years. Population growth and a large upswing in the volume of reading have made the old library inadequate to serve the needs of the people. A far seeing library board realized this some years ago, and took steps to remedy the situation. A good site was purchased last year and in October the electors of Medicine Hat were asked for approval of a \$350,000 by-law to finance a new building. The question of whether a new library was desirable or not at this time does not seem to have been in doubt. The by-law was approved by a vote of almost 3-1 in favour and plans are being made to start the new building. Eventually a new structure with 25,000 square feet of space and able to accommodate 90,000 volumes will be opened. Space for an auditorium, art gallery, children's room and work-rooms will be available, and the result will be a library building and a library service of which Medicine Hat will be quite proud.

Montgomery (population 5,077) has been without a public library for many years. Probably the proximity of Calgary with its central library and branch libraries relatively close to the town's borders, has been a factor in delaying the establishment of a public library in the town. However, the local recreation board felt, and rightly, that a local library would be an asset to the town and would be well used. Accordingly, they discussed the project with the townspeople and as a result, a petition was presented to the council and a by-law seeking public approval was put to the electors last month. There were many who were not convinced of the necessity for library service, but the more were in favour of it, and as a result, the by-law was approved slightly more than the 60% majority which is required by the Libraries Act. The new library board, when appointed, will have a busy time ahead, but they have popular support, and can be assured that the results

SOMETHING NEW IS ADDED TO ARTS AND CRAFTS COURSES

Basic courses in Batik, Millinery and Photography have been offered for the first time to the province of Alberta by the Arts and Crafts Division, Recreation and Cultural Development Branch. These courses, together with such craft courses as weaving, ceramics, leathercraft, copper tooling, basketry and design were announced in June, 1962, and requests for Batik, Millinery and Photography have been received.

Interest in these three crafts seems to be growing rapidly. Millinery, or the constructing of hats, is, of course, of interest only to the ladies, but Photography is an art or craft in which is expected chiefly male enrolment. Batik is new to nearly every one. It originated in the Polynesian Islands and is the basic method of decorating their bark-like fabrics.

Much has been done in the line of batik by Japanese craftsmen and recently artists and craftsmen of this continent have become interested in its two-dimensional approach and effects. The end product is usually a wall hanging or room divider, but it could be used for the decorating of yard goods, such as curtains. Basically, Batik is a process of dyeing and decorating cloth through the use of wax as a resist. The hot wax is painted on to preserve the

of their efforts will be evident when the rush starts at their library.

There has been library service in Vulcan for more than forty years, and all this time it has been operated on a volunteer basis. The library was designated a "community library" some years ago and the financial assistance provided by the Provincial Government alleviated matters for a time. Of late, the library board felt that there was a need for more support to enable them to provide the service the town needed. A petition was presented to town council and when the by-law to give the library municipal status was put to the people, it received very strong support. More than 80% of the vote was favourable.

These three instances show that the demand for better library service exists in Alberta and furthermore, that people are willing to pay for the kind of library service they want. Other communities should be encouraged by these results and be confident that their own library projects will be supported by the public whenever it becomes necessary.

preceding dyed colored areas by resisting the next dye color.

Many have been wondering just what would be included in a basic photography course. Course content would include:

- Use of camera, lenses, film and photographic equipment.
- Lighting.
- Assignments and criticism.
- Techniques of printing and development (dark room technique).
- Presentation.

The emphasis is on the use of black and white photography rather than color. It is cheaper, easier to handle and offers many more artistic and technical possibilities. No special equipment or expensive camera is required to take part in such a course since the aim is to illustrate the potential of any kind of camera. However, limitations are pointed out and the instructor will do his best to show each student just what he or she can do within those limitations. Photography can be quite an inexpensive past-time if emphasis is put on quality and statement instead of quantity and expensive equipment.

Photography, unlike any other craft or art, offers enjoyment to almost every age group. A good photographic club in your community would not only be very active, but could also help foster interest in community activities through its assignments, competitions, exhibitions, etc. Competitions and exhibitions can be arranged as to age groups, subject matter and kinds of equipment used. Assignments for the camera club and its members could embrace local activities and events. Exhibitions of photography would be of interest to almost everyone.

The camera is an efficient mechanism, used extensively today for advertising, reporting, the recording of events and happenings and finally, photography has been recognized as a vehicle of artistic statement. It has much to offer to those interested in its problems and possibilities and for some it will open new doors of realization and ideas.

Information about basic craft courses can be obtained by writing to the:

Arts and Crafts Division,
Recreation and Cultural Development Branch,
Department of the Provincial Secretary,
Room 424, Legislative Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.